

MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING
MINUTES
Monday November 22, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Stephen Pilcher at 7:02pm.

Members in attendance: Stephen Pilcher, Paul Low, Bill Martin, John McNerney

Members absent: Marikate Kelley

Others in attendance: Jessica Demeritt (recording secretary), Debora Sprague, Jamie Shulte, Joan Holloway

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

none

REGULAR BUSINESS:

APPROVE MINUTES

J. McNerney moved to approve the minutes of the 11/8/21 meeting as written. P. Low seconded. All voted in favor.

REVIEW AND APPROVE CHECK WARRANTS

P. Low moved to approve PR 11122 in the amount of \$10,792.27. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor.

REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC.

none

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

NEW BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENTS - ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER, CONSERVATION COMMITTEE, DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

D. Sprague has asked to be on the Conservation Committee. There are currently three members. **J. McNerney moved to appoint D. Sprague to the Conservation Committee for a term ending in 2025. Seconded by B. Martin. All voted in favor.**

There is a possible Animal Control Officer candidate. There is a \$200 monthly stipend.

J. McNerney moved to appoint Vicky Stern to the DRB with a term expiring Mar. 2023. Seconded by P. Low. The vote passed 3-0-1. B. Martin abstained.

J. McNerney moved to appoint S. Pilcher to the DRB with a term expiring Mar. 2022. B. Martin seconded. All voted in favor.

MOUNT ABE FALL MUSICAL REQUEST TO USE COMMUNITY ROOM

J. Holloway requested the room for a potluck. There would be no charge because a resident requested the room. Possibly 30 people would attend. There was a discussion about clarifying policy about when to require an insurance rider. **P. Low moved to approve use of the community room by the Mt. Abe Fall Musical group with no insurance rider requirement. B. Martin seconded. The vote passed 3-0-1. J. McNerney abstained.**

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BUDGET REVIEW

There was a discussion about salaries. There is not a lot of change in other areas, some items in the 2021 budget may need to be recategorized. B. Martin said they intend to send the road grader for repair in January for about \$38,000. They are doing a lot of their own repairs. They have stockpiled sand and salt for the winter. The highway department represents 75% of the town budget. S. Pilcher thanked B. Martin.

SELECTBOARD MEETING TIME, POSSIBLE CHANGE

In order to meet the needs of various boards and committees, there needs to be a shuffling of meeting dates. **B. Martin moved to change the Selectboard meetings to the first and third Mondays of the month beginning in January 2022. Seconded by J. McNerney. All voted in favor.**

ARPA FUNDS STATUS

S. Pilcher said the library has asked for \$4000 to make up funds lost from the canceled strawberry festivals. The MVFD has requested \$10,500 from lost fundraising efforts. They are also asking for \$51,000 for sundry items to be discussed further in a future meeting. The Bristol Rescue Squad is making a big ask. There was a discussion about how to determine equity for the five towns in the request. There was discussion about Maple Broadband and Waitsfield/Champlain Valley Telecom.

2022 BUDGET

S. Pilcher said there is not a lot to report at this time; the Board will pick it back up in December.

NEW TOWN OFFICES AND LIBRARY STATUS

S. Pilcher said the last request for funds for construction has occurred. The total expenses for the new town offices were \$1,684,000. The building is in a year-long warranty period.

OLD BUSINESS:

RML PROPOSAL REGARDING ROOM DESIGNATED FOR EXPANSION AT THE NEW TOWN OFFICES

Discussion is ongoing. There is a conversation that the historical society and the library can share the space. J. McNerney had a concern that the town may need that space in the future. P.

Low said the library was discussing it as community space. S. Pilcher suggests that possibly the space could be leased to retain the thought that it is the town space.

DISTURBANCE OF SURVEY PIN IN ROW - MACKENZIE

no action taken

SALVAGE YARDS IN MONKTON

no action taken.

TOWN CREDIT CARD AND POLICY

No policy yet. S. Pilcher is working on one.

CLOUD STORAGE AND POLICY

S. Pilcher is working on cloud storage.

SIGN

The Board is waiting on three possible bids for the work.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Delinquent taxes were \$157,000. Monkton has a stop sign ordinance which needs updating. D. Prague inquired about a solar “your speed/speed limit” sign for the Ridge.

DETERMINE DATE?TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, December 13, 2021, 7:00pm at the new town offices.

J. McNerney moved to adjourn. B. Martin seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46pm.